

ABSTRACT

In order to contribute to the recycling of thermal insulation material containing rigid urethane foam and vacuum insulation material, the present invention has an object of providing a method for recycling thermal insulation material in such a manner that mixed waste materials can have a uniform quality and be reused at high quality, and also providing a recycled article and a refrigerator. In order to achieve the object, in the recycling method according to the present invention, refrigerators containing vacuum insulation material which has glass fiber assembly as the core material and rigid urethane foam are pulverized separately from refrigerators not containing vacuum insulation material, and the waste thermal insulation materials discharged from these types of refrigerators are stored in different recovery towers for waste thermal insulation materials. In an inorganic material content adjusting process, appropriate amounts are fed from the respective recovery towers into a mixer so as to prepare mixed waste materials whose inorganic material content has been adjusted. In the subsequent waste material processing process, the mixed waste materials with an adjusted percentage of inorganic material content are subjected to an appropriate powdering operation, and the resulting

powder is sealed into a packaging member under a reduced pressure so as to obtain vacuum insulation material.